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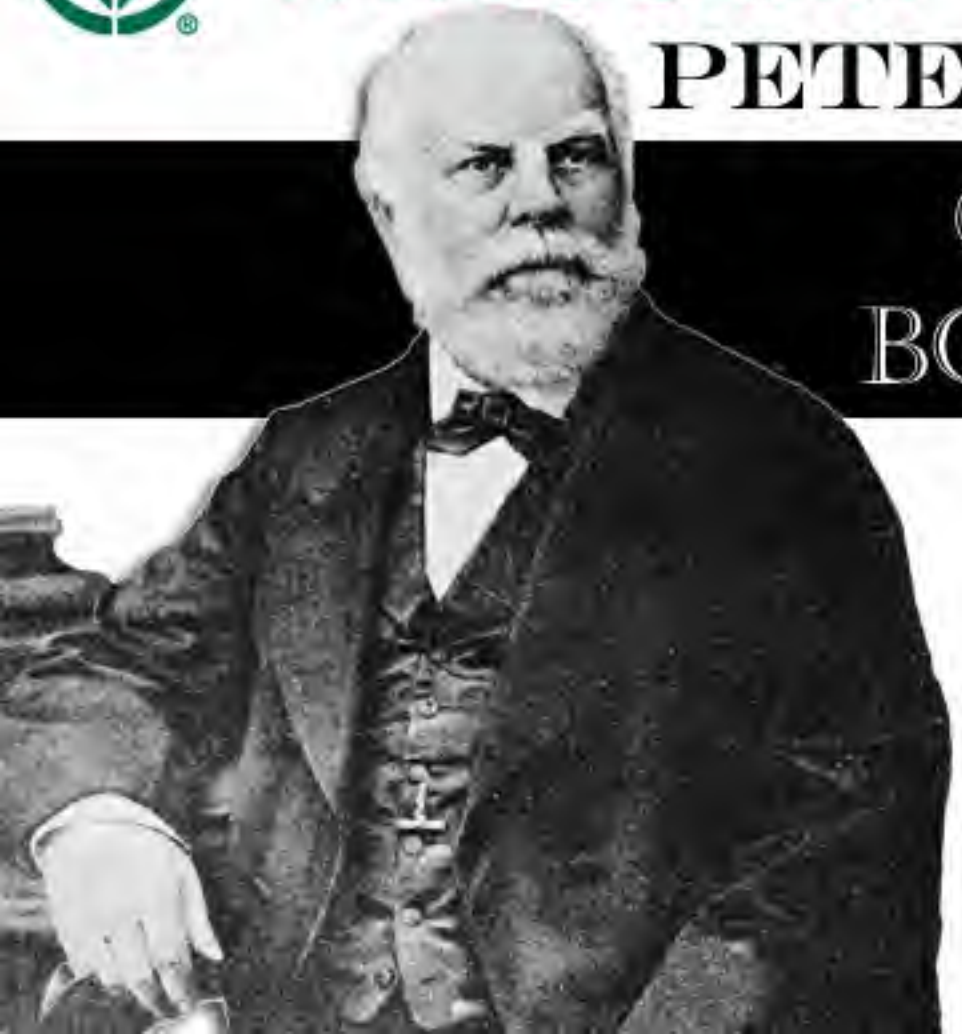
George Engelmann Botanical Notebooks



Pagination Note:
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Rec Febr 15
Ans same day

No specimen in Kew

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY,

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,

Typed duplicate

Brookline, Mass., February 12th 1881

Dear Dr Engelmann.

The following extract from a letter written by Douglas to Hooker dated "Entrance to the River Columbia Oct 11th 1850" contains his only mention of A. grandis.

"I however transmit me bundle of his species. Exceedingly beautiful, of the genus Pinus. Among these P. nobilis is by far the finest. I spent three weeks in a forest composed of the tree, and day by day could not cease to admire it; in fact my words can be only monotonous expressions of this feeling. I have added one new species during this journey P. grandis a noble tree, akin to P. balsamea growing from one hundred and seventy to two hundred feet high."

This was written during his second journey. This would seem to indicate that during his numerous trips up and down the Columbia made at the time of his first visit he had not distinguished what we have called A. grandis fr A. balsamea and that it was only in a subsequent journey possibly among the mountains of Southern Oregon and in the region of A. nobilis that he first what to considered a new species. What was this? Pr Gordon or Sabalpina what? Who knows? Does not Douglas specimen in Kew (if there is one there) tell the story? But you must settle this. I shall leave you the job. If Douglas never separated the Columbia River Abies from the Eastern species - then that might be called A. rivularis.

Ever yours,

C. S. Sargent

* The first mention of Douglas' discovery of the tree was in Hooker's Journal of Botany (1838) 1:274 where Douglas is quoted as saying "I have discovered a new species of Pinus, which I have named P. Douglasii, and the cone is 2 feet long."

No specimen in Kew Herb

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Corr. Conif. ed 2

Abies Gordoniana Vanousous Sta

quoted by Bertrand

Anatom Comparee des Conifères

p. 93 195

quoted, no authority given

is undoubtedly the true A. Gordoniana

the only Abies in Vancouver

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Tsuga ~~Rocky Mountain~~ Pattoniana / Jeffrey

seeds

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Ex Hb. Hort. Edinburgh
Oct 1868

The original habitats of A. amabilis & A. grandis of Douglas do not seem to have been touched. No true seeds of these species have been again procured.

James McNab in Gard Chron. May 11 1872

12818

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L D Hooker to A Gray

Octob 1877

Our Kew Abies grandis there is no mistake about

Our Cassiopeia, Parsonii & Lowiana are hardly forms of it [no! they are = concolor!]

Then we have the Mendocino plant with deep green short distichous leaves actually glaucous at the end — they is very unlike either grandis or nobilis & of a state of grandis it is a very queer one.

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Abies grandis at Dropmore
is a cutting from the originally
raised from Douglas seeds
in the Hortic. Soc. Garden
Chiswick and described & figured (& called
as *grandis* by Lambert, Gal in Douglas
amabilis.

Oldest leaves on 50 feet high branch
(now 40 years old) still adhering
bark splitting up in regular
squares or rather cubes.

Yours
Chief Gardener
Dropmore Park
Sept 17 1869

P.S. Have no leaves on yet

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Douglas Co.
high 90–100 ft
40–50 ft d'am

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Abies grandis Coastrange
on the ridges of the Umpqua Oregon
Trees to 5ft feet Diameter
152 inches crown perennes — grey —
Rich bark Aug 10 1880

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1881

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Abies grandis Lindl. Nuttall Sylva 3. 135

abietis balsamea

170-200-240 feet high -

leaves roundish & spirit, often notched
rounded distal apex
green above, silvery beneath

cones 3½" × 2", brown
scales transverse, very broad

A amabilis probably a mere variety

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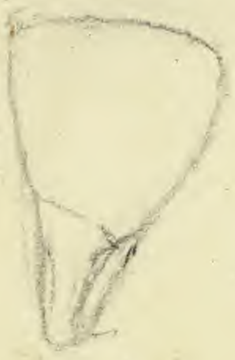
Victoria July 28 1880

Abies grandis

cone from a very tree 40 feet high
very vigorous, much larger
than usual; Victoria July 20
1880

immature, 4 inches long
and now only 1½ wide

brown shorter than half
scale, truncate, applegreen
scale much wider than high



very wider than long
in immature cone

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Abies

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Arabis Brink Gard

Adams, Sept pub

Silene Int GE n-b

Yakima Wats pub

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1832 *Pinus grandis* Dougl ms. in Lambert's Pinus ed 2 vol II
description without figure but

1836 *Pinus grandis* Dougl Bot. Mag. Compagnon II. 147 & 157 only the name, & no description. speaks of the discovery of *P. grandis*
1837 & a figure in Lamb. Pin. ed 1. supplement. vol III see next page

(figure and description seem to refer to *P. amabilis*

but, Watson (in Litt Nov 27. 1872) says, neither description
nor figure accord entirely with either species

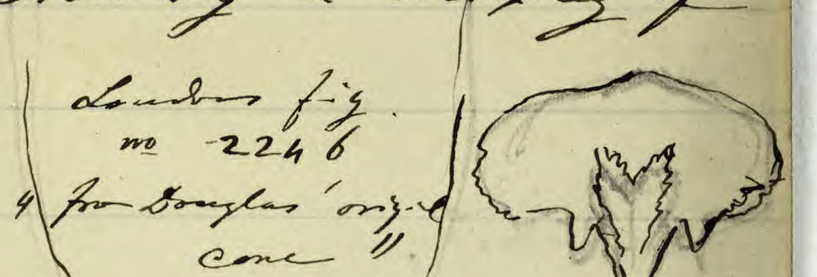
1833. *Abies grandis* Lindley Penny Cyclop. II. 3. gives the first description
of what we take to be *grandis*, taking no notice of
Lambert's form though he quotes Lambert & Douglas.

1838 *Picea grandis*. Loud Arb. Brit ed 1 & [ed 1 & 2 identical]
1844 " " " " ed 2. vol 4 p. 2341

recognizes two species, revives the name of *amabilis*
and distinguishes *grandis*:

"Leaves flat, obtuse, emarginate, pectinate, silvery beneath.
"Cones cylindrical; bracteoles ovate acuminate irregularly dentate,
"very short (Don in Lamb Pin). - Leaves 3/4 - 1 inch long. Cones
"according to Lambert 6" in long 3" in broad. [*amabilis*!]
"but in Douglas's specimens the largest cones are only
"3" long and 2" broad, the others being much smaller.
"Scale 3/4 in. long 3/4 broad. Seed small, with the wing 3/4 in
"long 3/8 broad. Native of the NW of America, discovered by
"Douglas and introduced by him in 1831.

Description: [extract] white to pale green 170-200' high
"with brown bark" etc etc - all taken from Lambert, etc and from
"Douglas in Comp Bot Mag II. p. 147 " evidently a mixing of
grandis and *amabilis*



Lambert's descr. of "*P. grandis*" had, fide Watson
in Litt. March 27 1872, probably the foliage of *grandis*
in view - perhaps also scales and seed of figure, while cone belongs to
what we call *amabilis*.

1857. J. S Newberry in Pac R R Rep. 6 Art p 46 gives figure and
description of "*Picea grandis*" ? The corrector?
emarginate even on the fertile leaves
[correct ??] He says that Douglas procured his specimens
on the Cascade Mts south of the Columbia
It says: in California, in the Cascades abundant, and beyond

128254

1836 Pinus grandis, Douglas in letter in Comp Bot Mag 2: 147 (as quoted by Newberry l.c.) says: a noble tree akin to P. Balsamea; cones ... cylindrical, obtuse ... 6 inches long [is this not amabilis?] All this is taken from London ency. p. 2341 which we above Watson writes (march 24 1872): In his account of his second visit to the Columbia in 1830 in letter of Octob 11 (Comp Bot Mag 2 147) Douglas speaks of sending home package of s.x sp. of pines one, recently discovered, P. grandis

the Columbia River, 200' high — Cones never more than 3 inches long, depressed & summit r always green or greenish brown, never chestnut — emarginate leaves ... P. grandis grows from southern California to the British line (fide Newberry)

1847 Endlicher Conif. p. 105 copies Lambert: Pinus grandis Doug. Calif. fide Loudon

1858 Carriere Conif ed. 1. Abies grandis p. 220 also extract (from Catalin) of Lambert, also of London

1868 Parlatore in DC Prod 16.2. p. 427 Pinus grandis Doug. a mixture of confusion

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1832 Pinus grandis Dougl ap. Lambert ed 2. vol 2

1833 Abies grandis Lindley in Penny Cyclop. no. 3.

(1857 Picea grandis (Newberry Pac R Rep. 6. Bot p.)

1866 Picea grandis Loudon in Hdb. Trees Brit ed 2 vol 4 p. 2341

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